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Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Confirmation No. 3423

Re: U.S. Application Serial No. 09/990,507
Filed: November 21, 2001
(RCE Filing Date: May 20, 2004)
For: **Methods for Fluxless Brazing**
Inventor: Kostas F. DOCKUS, *et al.*
Our Ref: 02057.0167.NPUS00

Sir:

Applicant submits the following documents for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449 (1 page) with 14 cited references; and
3. Return postcard.

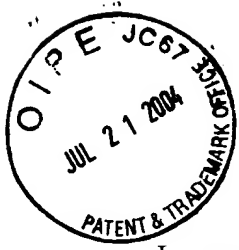
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to **Deposit Account No. 08-3038**. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing the above docket number. *A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bell (Reg. No. 39,604)
Michael J. Stimson (Reg. No. 45,429)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kostas F. DOCKUS, *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/990,507

Filed: November 21, 2001

For: **METHODS FOR FLUXLESS
BRAZING**

Art Unit: 1775

Examiner: Zimmerman

Atty. Docket: 02057.0167.NPUS00

Information Disclosure Statement

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted

herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed;
- ☐ a. Within three months of the U.S. filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
 - ☐ b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;
 - ☐ c. Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits;
 - ☒ d. Before the mailing of a first Office Action after filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.115.

No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.

or;

- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period specified in paragraph 1(a)-1(d) above, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, or action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and
- ☐ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
 - ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), or

- ☐ c. Attached is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our Check No. 408943 in the amount of \$ 180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i), and
- ☐ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
- ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.
- ☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☒ 7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Nos. 10/300,836, filed November 21, 2002; Application No. 10/300,837, filed November 21, 2002; Application No. 10/300,854, filed November 21, 2002; Application No. 10/424,151, filed April 28, 2003, Application No. 10/424,133,


filed April 28, 2003, and Application No. 10/424,159, filed April 28, 2003, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

- ☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 02057.0167.NPUS00.

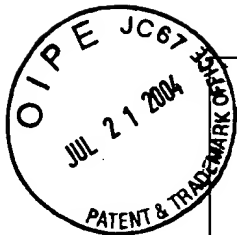
Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Bell (Reg. No. 39,604)
Michael J. Stimson (Reg. No. 45,429)

Date: July 21, 2004

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
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Washington, D.C. 20004-2402
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LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

PTO FORM 1449

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

*02057.0167.NPUS00

APPLICATION NO.

09/990,507

APPLICANT

DOCKUS *et al.*

FILING DATE

November 21, 2001

GROUP

1775

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1.	US2002/0086179	07/2002	Wittebrood			
	2.	US2003/0189082	10/2003	Dockus			
	3.	3,321,828	05/1967	Miller			
	4.	3,332,517	7/19679	Voser			
	5.	3,553,825	01/1971	Dockus			
	6.	3,703,763	11/1972	Berry			
	7.	4,890,784	01/1990	Bampton			
	8.	4,901,908	02/1990	Negura <i>et al.</i>			
	9.	5,044,546	09/1991	De Clerck			
	10.	5,069,980	12/1991	Namba <i>et al.</i>			
	11.	5,072,789	12/1991	Usui <i>et al.</i>			
	12.	5,100,048	03/1992	Timsit			
	13.	5,232,788	08/1993	Timsit <i>et al.</i>			
	14.	6599645	07/2003	Wittebrood			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER REFERENCES

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.